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BOROUGH OF



DORCHESTER

ANNUAL REPORT

of the



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1957

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman. Councillor W. A. NEAL

Vice-Chairman. Councillor Mrs. E. K. HALLETT, J.P.

Alderman H. G. LONGMAN

Alderman Mrs. N. O. JACKMAN, J.P.

Councillor T. JEREMY

Councillor V. G. MARDON

Councillor H. G. READ

Councillor R. R. COLLINS

Councillor F. GREEN

Councillor J. H. MATTHEWS

Ex-officio Alderman H. E. THOMAS, B.A., J.P. Mayor

STAFF - HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health (Combined Appointment)

I. B. LAWRENCE, B.Sc., M.B., D.P.H.

Clerk/Shorthand Typist (Combined Appointment)

Miss M. A. SMITH

Senior Public Health Inspector

C. F. ALLARD, D.P.A., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

D. A. DOLPHIN, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

General Assistant

B. A. GALE (Appointed 30.12.57)

Clerical Staff

Miss K. M. FORD (Sick Leave from 20.2.56. Resigned 8.9.57)

Mrs. J. UNDERWOOD (Temporary - Part Time. Resigned 7.6.57)

Mrs. L. E. PAYNE (Temporary - Part Time. Appointed 18.6.57. Resigned 6.12.57)

Mrs. D. A. JORDEN (Temporary - Part Time. Appointed 10.12.57)

Rodent Operator - Part Time

E. HALLETT

County Clinic,
Glyde Path Road,
Dorchester.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Dorchester.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my eighth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough of Dorchester for the year 1957. It is written on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health.

The number of infectious diseases notified during the year was very low and it is pleasing to note that there were no cases of Poliomyelitis or Dysentery. There were however, five cases of Food Poisoning, the highest since 1953. This follows the general trend of increase throughout the country.

The one outstanding infection was the outbreak of Influenza in September, which commenced in the senior schools soon after the term began, affecting mainly the older children. Later it spread to the junior schools but to a lesser extent. The infant schools were only slightly affected. Within three weeks the adult population were also involved.

One case of Encephalitis following an attack of Mumps was reported to me, this complication is uncommon. The patient fully recovered.

A case of Typhoid was reported in a boy of fifteen. He was admitted to hospital, although he appeared clinically to have Typhoid, investigations all proved negative and no germs could be isolated.

This latter fact was supported by our negative samples from the sewers for the past three years, during which time no Typhoid germs had been isolated. This regular routine sampling of the sewage, although taking up time, shows what useful information -- although negative -- can be obtained and makes the effort worthwhile.

I was also informed of a case of Abortus Fever, a non notifiable disease.

From a health angle the most important feature of the year was the continuation of vaccination against Poliomyelitis, this commenced in May with an increasing demand for the protection, during the year. 550 children born in the years 1947 to 1956 were immunised.

Talks and films on Clean Food and Vaccination were given to school leavers.

Flooding occurred in the town in June and September and a report was made to the Council on possible hazards to health from flooding affecting the sewers.

Reports on Smoking and Cancer, Accidents in the Home and use of Fireguards, were submitted to the Health Committee.

The steady increase in the number of animals slaughtered in the two abattoirs was again brought to the notice of the Council and again it was pointed out that in view of this, insufficient time was being spent on general Public Health duties.

The insufficient and poor office accommodation of the Public Health Inspectors was improved during the year and I am grateful to the Council for providing a further room to relieve the overcrowded conditions.

I wish to thank the Mayor and members of the Council for their help and understanding during the year, and the help of my colleagues on the staff and again would especially mention Mr. Allard and the rest of the Health Department for their continued support.

Your obedient Servant,

I. B. LAWRENCE.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

(Figures for 1956 shown in brackets)

Area	...	...	...	...	1,675 acres
Resident Population	..	...	...	...	11,510 (11,380)
No. of houses inhabited at the end of 1957	...	...	...	...	3,448 (3,298)
Rateable Value (31st March, 1958)	...	...	...	...	£182,147 (£196,817)
Sum represented by Penny Rate (1957/1958)	...	...	...	...	£725

VITAL STATISTICS

Population - Estimate for Births and Deaths Rates 11,510 (11,380)

Comparability Factor	Births	1.07
	Deaths	1.01

<u>Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Legitimate	95	79	174	
Illegitimate	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>	
	99	86	185	(160)

Still Births

Legitimate	4	2	6	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
	4	2	6	(2)

Deaths -- All Causes 72 64 136 (156)

Deaths of Infants under 1 year (Infant Mortality)

Legitimate	3	-	3	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
	3	-	3	(3)

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks (NeoNatal Mortality)

Legitimate	3	-	3	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
	3	-	3	(2)

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Birth Rate	17.12	15.8	13.1
Birth Rate for England and Wales	16.0	15.7	15.0
Death Rate	10.28	13.8	10.0
Death Rate for England and Wales	10.18	11.7	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate	16.0	18.8	13.0
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales...	23.0	23.8	24.9

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Tuberculosis, respiratory...	-	-	-	(1)
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	(-)
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	(-)
Diphtheria	-	-	-	(-)
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	(-)
Meningitis	-	-	-	(-)
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	(-)
Measles	-	-	-	(-)
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1	(-)
Cancer of stomach	1	1	2	(2)
Cancer of lung, bronchus	4	-	4	(6)
Cancer of breast... ..	-	4	4	(5)
Cancer of uterus... ..	-	-	-	(-)
Other Cancers	6	5	11	(25)
Acute Anaemia	-	-	-	(-)
Diabetes	-	-	-	(3)
Vascular lesions of nervous system... ..	14	10	24	(26)
Coronary disease, angina	14	5	19	(22)
High Blood Pressure with Heart Disease	1	2	3	(2)
Other Heart Disease	4	12	16	(21)
Other circulatory disease... ..	2	6	8	(5)
Influenza	-	1	1	(1)
Pneumonia	4	5	9	(9)
Bronchitis	2	2	4	(3)
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1	(2)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2	(-)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea... ..	1	1	2	(2)
Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	-	4	(2)
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-	4	(2)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	(1)
Congenital malformations	-	-	-	(2)
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	5	11	(12)
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1	(-)
All other accidents	1	1	2	(1)
Suicide	2	1	3	(1)
All Causes	72	64	136	(156)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table summarises the notifications of Infectious Diseases made during the year :-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>										<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Cases admitted to hospital</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
	<u>0-</u>	<u>1-</u>	<u>3-</u>	<u>5-</u>	<u>10-</u>	<u>15-</u>	<u>25-</u>	<u>45-</u>	<u>65+</u>	<u>L.U.</u>			
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	1	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
Measles	-	3	8	16	2	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	9
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	-	-	-	11	11	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	5	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Food Poisoning

In one outbreak, four cases were notified and on investigation one other case was ascertained. One of the cases remained a temporary carrier and as a food shop was involved, special precautions had to be taken, in which the firm co-operated. The carrier's state eventually cleared up satisfactorily.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 1957, the following cases and deaths from Tuberculosis were notified :- (figures for 1956 shown in brackets)

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
15	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
25	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
35	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
45	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
55	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
65	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Age Unknown	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTALS	6(4)	2(4)	-(1)	-(-)	-(1)	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Dr. T. V. Cooper of the County Laboratory and Dr. G. H. Tee of the Public Health Laboratory have again been most helpful during the year and I appreciate their ready co-operation.

The following is a table of specimens submitted to the Laboratories:-
(Totals for 1956 in brackets)

Throat Swabs	...	123	(93)	Milk	...	150	(163)
Faeces	...	204	(189)	Ice Cream	...	20	(20)
Blood	...	61	(51)	Water	...	142	(144)
Ringworm	...	6	(2)	Sewage	...	152	(54)
Sputum	...	175	(117)	Miscellaneous	...	163	(44)

HOUSING

<u>Council Houses</u>	<u>In process of erection.</u>	<u>Completed 1957</u>	<u>Completed since war.</u>
Temporary --	--	--	--
Permanent --			
Traditional Type	10	34	339
Non-Traditional Type	--	--	26
Converted into Flats	--	--	5
No. of Council Houses (pre-war)			272
No. of Post War houses completed and occupied at 31/12/57 (excluding the converted flats)			365
Total No. of Council Houses at 31/12/57 (excluding the converted flats)			637

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Two persons were investigated during the year. In one case a Home Help was provided and in the other, the person was ill and recovered in a few days. No action was necessary under the Act.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Many elderly persons are now able to stay home and be cared for through the Home Help Service, when previously they had to go into other accommodation such as Old Persons Homes and hospitals for the chronic sick.

Old people do not like to be uprooted from their homes where they have lived for years and are daily in contact with memories of the past. Furthermore they prefer to die at home rather than in hospitals.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

To call the Ambulance for routine work ring Dorchester 420, in an emergency ask the exchange for Ambulance. Always state urgency, nature of case, full address and which Ambulance is required, e.g. sitting or stretcher case.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year the following extensions to sewers were made.

Treves Road	-- 300 yards (9 inch)
Wollaston Road (relaid sewer)	-- 122 yards cast iron (6 inch)

The sewers were sampled again this year with Moore's swabs. 47 out of 152 were found to be positive to Salmonella organisms and one sample of the river, taken near the effluent discharge point from the sewage works, was positive.

PUBLIC CLEANSING -- REFUSE COLLECTION

The refuse disposal site is well maintained and regular laying is carried out. The Rodent Control Officer visits the site for any necessary treatment.

WATER SUPPLIES

A sample of the chemical analysis of the water supply is given overleaf and shows it to be satisfactory.

Bacteriological samples taken by the Surveyor's Department during the year numbered 115. Close co-operation with the Health Department is always maintained. As mentioned elsewhere, the Public Health Officers are fully engaged in other work and although water sampling is their duty, regular sampling cannot be undertaken with the present staff and only seven checks were made by the Department, two of these following a doubtful sample.

The following extensions to water mains were made.

Came View Estate (2nd stage)	-- 60 yards of 3 inch main
	-- 270 yards of 4 inch main
James Road	-- 90 yards of 3 inch main
Frome Terrace	-- 170 yards of 4 inch main
Damers Road	-- 120 yards of 6 inch main

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammonia, free	...	...	...	0.094
" Albuminoid	...	...	...	0.100
Nitrites	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrates, as Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	6.42
Oxygen absorbed in 15 mins. at 80°F	...	...	...	0.35
" " " 4 hours " "	...	...	...	0.43
Chlorine	...	...	...	25.0
as Sodium Chloride	...	...	...	41.20
Hardness, temporary	...	...	...	245.0
" permanent	...	...	...	45.0
" total	...	...	...	290.0
Total Solids	...	...	...	337.0
pH value	...	...	...	7.2

Metals: Lead, copper, zinc, iron nil.

Appearance: Colourless and clear.

Odour: None

Free Chlorine:

Remarks:

This is a clear, bright, hard water. The majority of the hardness is of a temporary nature and would be removed by boiling.

The water is of good organic purity and the above results show no indication of pollution either at present or in the past, and in my opinion it is very suitable for both drinking and domestic purposes.

(signed) Arthur S. Carlos.

Public Analyst.

2nd November, 1958.

METEOROLOGICAL DETAILS - YEAR 1957

Month	Rainfall inches	Rain Fell On days	Sunshine hours	Temp. in deg. F.	
				Maximum	Minimum
January	5.27	23	45.25	57	24
February	5.11	23	73.45	53	26
March	3.82	15	89.75	62	30
April	0.30	7	172.00	67	34
May	3.43	16	204.00	67	34
June	2.74	10	240.50	84	40
July	5.49	17	162.75	80	45
August	4.03	16	164.90	80	44
September	6.47	15	119.75	68	33
October	3.67	15	92.50	66	36
November	2.77	7	76.00	55	27
December	3.57	16	55.25	54	21
	46.67	180	1,496.10		

Totals in

1956	41.60	1,570.30
1955	44.07	1,756.50
1954	46.43	1,505.30
1953	33.20	1,605.19

1957 could be described as a wet year with low sunshine compared with the last six years. Flooding occurred on two occasions, on the 18th June when the rainfall was 1.62 inches and on the 8th, 9th and 10th September when the rainfall was 1.55, 1.44 and 1.01 inches respectively.

Public Health Inspectors' Office,
North Square,
DORCHESTER.

September, 1958.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Dorchester.

Annual Report for 1957.

I present for your consideration the following report on the work carried out by your public health inspectors in 1957.

The administration of the Department was adversely affected by changes in the clerical staff. At the end of the year the Council appointed a General Assistant, in addition to the temporary part-time clerk, and the position is now more satisfactory, although much still remains to be done to make up the backlog which has arisen through staff changes and illness.

With the assistance of inspectors of a neighbouring authority nearly all of the 62,567 animals slaughtered in the Borough were examined. The pressure on the Department from meat inspection was exceptionally heavy during the last quarter of the year. The problems arising from meat inspection were discussed at a number of meetings and the Council advertised twice for a second additional inspector. After consideration of the applications received the appointment was deferred.

Draft Regulations on the constructional standards of slaughterhouses were published in August, 1957, and a report on how the Regulations were likely to affect the slaughterhouses within the Borough was made to the Health Committee. Subsequently an approach was made to the occupiers of the slaughterhouses to inform them of the proposed Regulations.

New legislation affecting housing which came into force during the year included the Housing Act, 1957 (a consolidating measure only) and the Rent Act, 1957. Progress was made in the Council's programme for the clearance of unfit houses when a Compulsory Purchase Order and a Clearance Order were confirmed. The Orders affected thirty-five properties.

I would like to express my thanks to the members of the Council for the support received and to the chief officers and my other colleagues on the staff for their help and advice.


Senior Public Health Inspector.

1. INSPECTIONS - 1957.

Under the Housing Acts:

Inspection of dwelling-houses	76
Re-inspection of dwelling-houses	146
Visits re overcrowding	9
Unclassified	40
	271

Under the Food & Drugs Acts:

Inspection and visits re unsound food	74
Inspection of food premises	68
Visits re notified or suspected cases of food poisoning	39
Visits to slaughterhouses	1,236
Visits to dairies (including sampling)	3
Unclassified	4
	1,424

Under the Public Health Acts:

Inspection and/or testing of sewers/drains (including soil and ventilating pipes)	243
Inspection of closets and cesspools	9
Inspection of filthy or verminous premises	22
Inspection of public conveniences	2
Inspection for detection and abatement of statutory nuisances	144
Inspection and sampling of water supplies	19
Enquiries and visits re infectious diseases	202
Inspection of tents, vans and sheds	5
Unclassified	12
	658

Under the Factories Act:

Inspection of factories	9
Visits to outworkers' premises	-
Unclassified	2
	11

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act:

(including 76 inspections carried out whilst visiting premises under other Acts but excluding visits by the rodent operator)	116
Other visits	4
	120

Under the Shops Acts:

- -

Under the Petroleum Acts:

22

Under the Pet Animals Act:

- -

Miscellaneous:

8

2,514

2. COMPLAINTS - 1957.

Disrepair of houses	20
Overcrowding or other inadequate housing conditions	7
Unsound food or unsatisfactory conditions in food premises	7
Defective and/or choked drains, sewers, closets, cesspools, etc.	39
Verminous and/or filthy premises	6
Offensive accumulations or deposits	3
Other public health nuisances	12
Rats and mice	48
Unclassified	2
Total:	<u>144</u>

3. NOTICES - 1957.

	<u>Informal Notices</u>		<u>Formal Notices</u>	
	Served	Complied with	Served	Complied with
Under (or preliminary to action under) Public Health Acts	49	33	--	--
Under (or preliminary to action under) Housing Acts	6	6	--	--
Under (or preliminary to action under) Food & Drugs Acts	6	13	--	--
Under (or preliminary to action under) Factories Acts	--	--	--	--
Under (or preliminary to action under) Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	2	2	--	--
Under (or preliminary to action under) Petroleum Acts	--	--	--	--
Under (or preliminary to action under) Shops Acts	--	--	--	--
Totals:	63	54	--	--

4. HOUSING.

Clearance Areas.

Action with regard to clearance areas is the responsibility of the Clearance and Redevelopment Committee, which met twice during the year and also inspected the proposed second clearance area in Mill Street.

The Council made "The Borough of Dorchester (Mill Street, Scheme No.1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1957". Included in the Order were twenty-seven unfit houses, one house and shop included by reason of "bad arrangement", and two unfit houses subject to Demolition Orders and which adjoined the clearance area. The Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed the Order without modification, after an inspection of the houses had been made by his Inspector.

The Council also made "The Borough of Dorchester (The Grove) Clearance Order, 1957", which included five unfit houses. This Order was also confirmed without modification.

Details were submitted to the Clearance and Redevelopment Committee of thirty unfit properties included in the suggested second clearance area in the Mill Street scheme.

Individual Houses.

Individual unfit houses are dealt with by the Health Committee, Closing Orders being made on the following seven properties:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Persons displaced</u>
71 Mill Street	Closing Order made by Council 8.1.57	Not rehoused by end of year
7 Pound Lane	Closing Order made by Council 8.1.57	Nil
16 Shorts Lane	Closing Order made by Council 12.2.57	Nil
4 Gregory's Buildings	Closing Order made by Council 14.5.57.	Nil
18 Miller's Close	Closing Order made by Council 8.10.57	5 - Rehoused 21.10.57.
9 Mill Street	Closing Order made by Council 10.12.57	Nil
40 Mill Street (Hardy Avenue)	Closing Order made by Council 10.12.57	3 - Rehoused 25.7.57.

The following table summarises the action taken by the Council under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, (now Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957) from 1951 onwards:-

	<u>Total</u> 1951-1956 (inclusive)	1957	<u>Total</u> 1951-1957 (inclusive)
Undertakings not to re-let given by owners	18	-	18
Undertakings to repair houses given by owners	2	-	2
Houses voluntarily closed by owners	4	-	4
Closing Orders made	25	7	32
Demolition Orders made	3	-	3
	52	7	59
Houses voluntarily demolished by owners	5	-	5
Houses demolished by owners after statutory action by Council	2	-	2
	7	-	7

Rehousing.

The rehousing of tenants from unfit houses is the responsibility of the Housing Committee. In addition to the two referred to above, seventeen families were rehoused from the Mill Street Scheme No.1. and one from an unfit house on which a Closing Order had been made in 1955.

Housing Repairs.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government in a Circular introducing the Rent Act, 1957, asked local authorities to make the fullest use of their powers under the Housing Act and Public Health Act to secure the better repair of rented accommodation.

Rent Act, 1957.

The Rent Act, 1957, came into operation during the year and a number of enquiries from landlords and tenants were dealt with. Several landlords who served notices of rent increase received notices of defects of repair from their tenants, and as a result a number of these defects were remedied. However, these works were not sufficiently extensive to affect to any great extent the general standard of repair of the houses in Dorchester, or to overcome the basic faults such as dampness, inadequate lighting and poor ventilation.

By the end of 1957 four applications for certificates of disrepair had been received. The Council had dealt with two of these and decided to issue certificates in respect of some of the defects specified by the tenants.

5. FOOD PREMISES.

The number of food premises in the area, classified under the principal trade carried out, is as follows:-

Butchers	12
Fishmongers	6
Grocers and provision merchants	35
Bakers and flour confectioners	3
Greengrocers	9
Confectioners	13
Hotels	12
Restaurants	18
Public Houses and clubs	20
	128

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, at 31st December, 1957, and of inspections made (including visits for sampling) is as follows:-

	<u>No. registered.</u>	<u>No. of inspections.</u>
For the sale, or manufacture, or storage of ice-cream	44	17
For the preparation or manufacture of meat products or preserved foods	4	9

The number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954, and of inspections made (including visits for sampling) is as follows:-

Distributors with premises within the Borough	4
Distributors trading from outside the Borough	2
Retail shops selling bottled milk only	15
	21

Number of inspections

3

6. FOOD HYGIENE.

The total number of visits to food premises for all purposes was sixty-eight. Two premises were brought up to the standards of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, after service of notices, and five new or converted premises after consultation with the Public Health Inspectors. A report on two food premises owned by the Council was submitted to the Health Committee.

Proprietors and food handlers have to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, and many think that rules such as "no smoking" should apply also to the customers.

One talk on "Clean Food" was given to a women's organisation (we have never been asked to talk on this subject to a men's organisation!) but again we were not able to progress with the scheme of talks to food handlers.

7. FOOD INSPECTION.

Milk. In accordance with the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1954, all milk retailed within the Borough of Dorchester must be specially designated milk, i.e. "Pasteurised", "Sterilised" or "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

One sample of milk was taken:-

	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>
Tuberculin Tested	-	-
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	1	-
Pasteurised	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Ice-cream. Fifteen samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, the results of which were:-

	<u>Bulk</u> <u>Ice-cream</u>	<u>Pre-packed</u> <u>Ice-cream</u>
Provisional Grade 1	4	7
Provisional Grade 2	1	2
Provisional Grade 3	-	1
Provisional Grade 4	-	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>

In addition five samples of iced lollies were submitted for bacteriological examination; all the samples were satisfactory.

Forty samples of various other foods, including twenty-three samples of meat products or their ingredients, and eighteen swabs of food machinery were submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory. Eleven of the samples contained food poisoning or similar organisms.

The quantities of food found to be unsound and voluntarily surrendered to the department for disposal are shown in the following table. The food is surrendered at the office of the inspectors and disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

Canned or other pre-packed foods:-

772 lbs.	Meat or fish (407 packs)
1182 lbs.	Fruit (670 packs)
390 lbs.	Vegetables (277 packs)
26 lbs.	Soup (35 packs)
94 lbs.	Milk (98 packs)
251 lbs.	Other pre-packed foods (249 packs)

Other foods:

104 lbs.	Meat, bacon and meat products
325 lbs.	Fish
14 lbs.	Butter
14 lbs.	Confectionery
10 lbs.	Nuts

Total Weight: 3,182 lbs.

8. MEAT INSPECTION.

Two premises within the Borough continued to be occupied as private slaughterhouses, both being used mainly for the wholesale meat trade but also supplying the needs of butchers in Dorchester and the neighbouring districts. This local trade formed about ten per cent of the total throughput.

The pattern of slaughtering was similar to that of previous years. Both slaughterhouses operated fully throughout Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, the throughput on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays varying considerably at different times during the year. It was necessary for the meat inspectors to work long hours to ensure a thorough inspection of the meat and offals. Overtime was restricted to 767 hours (compared with 797½ hours in 1956), but as a result of a higher rate of throughput on an increased number of days two and sometimes three inspectors were engaged on meat inspection at the same time. It is interesting to note that in one week of 1957 more carcasses were examined than in the whole of 1937.

Financial assistance towards the cost of meat inspection, which had been received over a number of years from the neighbouring authorities of Portland Urban District, Swanage Urban District, and Weymouth and Melcombe Regis Borough, ceased to be made upon the Government scheme of grants for meat inspection costs coming into operation. On the assumption that the Government grant for the financial year 1957-1958 will be calculated on the same basis as that for the previous year, it is estimated that the Council will receive a sum of £400. In addition the slaughtering contractors have made contributions amounting to £689. These contributions are made in respect of animals slaughtered for markets outside Dorset.

In 1957, 62,567 animals were slaughtered compared with 61,491 in 1956. With the exception of four calves and one-hundred and seven sheep all the animals were inspected. The table on page 20 gives details of the animals slaughtered and inspected, and of the extent of disease found.

Carcases and Offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle ex. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed.	1,601	1,455	20,229	22,523	16,755	4
Number inspected.	1,601	1,455	20,225	22,416	16,755	4
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>	7	59	120	51	133	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	580	794	77	865	3,479	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	36.67	58.63	0.97	4.09	21.56	-
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	6	26	7	-	5	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	143	195	18	-	678	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	9.31	15.19	0.12	-	4.08	-
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	47	20	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	43	15	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	1	-	-	1	-	-
Total number of carcasses affected with one or more of above conditions	741	1,002	222	917	4,280	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease	46.28	68.87	1.10	4.09	25.54	-

The approximate weights of meat and offals rejected as unfit for human consumption, together with the comparative figures for previous years are shown below:-

Meat and Offals rejected (tons).

	<u>Tuberculosis</u>	<u>Other Diseases</u>	<u>Total</u>
1951	24	19	43
1952	19	25	44
1953	18	20	38
1954	17	16	33
1955	17	20	37
1956	14	31	45
1957	16	39	55

The number of whole carcasses rejected as unfit for human consumption was 416 (0.68 per cent of the total of number of animals inspected) compared with 405 (0.66 per cent) in 1956. Details are shown in the following table:-

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>ex. cows.</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Goats</u>	<u>Total</u>
1955	13	46	15	13	39	1	127
Percentage	(1.1)	(2.1)	(0.09)	(0.12)	(0.18)		(0.24)
1956	18	87	97	37	166	-	405
Percentage	(1.1)	(5.2)	(0.46)	(0.17)	(1.15)		(0.66)
1957	14	85	127	52	138	-	416
Percentage	(0.87)	(5.84)	(0.63)	(0.23)	(0.82)		(0.68)

The principal causes for the rejection of the 416 whole carcasses classified in terms of Memo 3/Meat were as follows:-

<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>	<u>Cattle</u> <u>ex.cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Actinobacillosis, generalised	-	1	-	-	-
or Actinomycosis, generalised	1	-	-	-	-
Anaemia, advanced	-	1	-	-	-
Bruising, extensive and severe	1	5	1	2	-
Cysticercosis, generalised in the musculature	1	-	-	1	-
Decomposition, generalised	-	-	-	1	-
Emaciation, pathological	1	4	6	4	15
Fever (including salmonellosis)	-	6	31	13	24
Immaturity	-	-	4	-	-
Jaundice	1	-	2	-	2
Mastitis, acute septic	-	12	-	-	-
Metritis, acute septic	-	3	-	1	-
Oedema, generalised	-	4	6	9	10
Pericarditis, acute septic	-	1	-	-	-
Peritonitis, acute, diffuse, septic	-	1	14	1	9
Pleurisy, acute, diffuse, septic	-	-	2	3	7
Pneumonia, acute septic	1	2	4	2	14
Pyæmia, including joint-ill	-	7	14	3	5
Septicaemia or toxæmia	2	8	32	12	25
Swine erysipelas, acute	-	-	-	-	6
Swine fever	-	-	-	-	16
Tumours, (malignant with secondary growths)	-	-	1	-	-
Uraemia	-	3	3	-	-
Other causes (Xanthosis, generalised)	-	1	-	-	-
	8	59	120	52	133

Tuberculosis.

Generalised tuberculosis	6	21	7	-	4
Tuberculosis with emaciation	-	5	-	-	1
	6	26	7	-	5

The incidence of bovine tuberculosis which had declined for some years showed an increase in 1957.

	<u>Cattle</u> (excluding cows)	<u>Cows</u>
1951	10.2 per cent	28.4 per cent
1952	10.79 per cent	25.24 per cent
1953	10.60 per cent	23.67 per cent
1954	8.01 per cent	18.98 per cent
1955	8.26 per cent	17.21 per cent
1956	6.82 per cent	13.67 per cent
1957	9.31 per cent	15.19 per cent

Congenital Tuberculosis in calves.

The Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, was notified of two cases of congenital tuberculosis in calves to enable him to trace the dams. Twenty-three other cases of tuberculosis in calves diagnosed were considered to be cases of acquired tuberculosis.

Cysticercus Bovis.

All cattle were subjected to routine examination of the head, tongue, heart and diaphragm and sixty-eight cases of cysticercus bovis were found. One infection was found to be generalised. The incidence of cysticercus bovis was 2.23 per cent and the locations of the cysts found were as follows:-

Generalised (all sites of predilection and widespread infection of carcase)	1
Head (external and/or internal masseter muscles)	27
Head (tongue)	1
Head (external masseter muscles and tongue)	2
Head and heart	5
Head and skirt (diaphragm)	3
Heart	26
Skirt (diaphragm)	3
	68

Fifty-eight of the sixty-seven carcasses affected with localised cysticercus bovis were submitted to cold storage (nearly all at premises within the Borough) and kept at the prescribed temperatures before release for consumption. The remaining nine carcasses were rejected because of other conditions present in addition to cysticercus bovis, or because the butcher refused to submit the carcase to the approved cold storage treatment. The incidence of cysticercus bovis continues to be an outstanding problem connected with meat inspection.

The meat after subjection to cold storage is not readily marketable and therefore constitutes a loss to the butchers concerned, particularly as the majority of cysts are found in prime beef (steers and heifers). However, as the cysts if viable and not subjected to sufficient heat in cooking, upon ingestion by humans develop into the human tapeworm, the importance from the public health point of view of preventing infected carcasses from reaching the market without adequate treatment will be appreciated. The incidence of cysticercus bovis in cattle examined at the Dorchester slaughterhouses during the past seven years is as follows:-

1951	0.65 per cent	(28 cases)
1952	0.74 per cent	(31 cases)
1953	1.60 per cent	(70 cases)
1954	0.61 per cent	(23 cases)
1955	0.80 per cent	(27 cases)
1956	0.94 per cent	(31 cases)
1957	2.23 per cent	(68 cases)

Laboratory facilities.

The facilities of the Public Health Laboratory, which is under the direction of Dr. G.H. Tee, are available for the examination of specimens from carcasses.

9. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 and 1954.

Twenty-one slaughtermen employed at the local slaughterhouses were licensed to slaughter or stun cattle, sheep, pigs and goats with a mechanically operated instrument of the captive bolt pistol type or an electrically operated instrument (electrolethal). No licences to slaughter horses within the Borough have been issued.

10. WATER SUPPLIES.

Routine samples of the mains water supply were not taken by the public health inspectors, but samples were taken each week by the Water Engineer and the Public Health Department informed of the results.

11. DRAINAGE.

Twenty-six visits were made to inspect and test new drains, the remainder of this work being temporarily undertaken by the Borough Surveyor's staff. Two hundred and seventeen visits were made to inspect and test old drains.

12. FACTORIES.

The table on page 26 shows the number of factories on the Council's register and details of the inspections made. Routine inspection of the factories in the Borough was not carried out.

Notification was received during the year of thirty-seven outworkers who were employed in their own homes making wearing apparel and nets.

13. CAMPING CONTROL.

Licences were issued under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to three persons to station an individual caravan for permanent use. A licensed residential site for twenty-nine caravans continued in use throughout the year. This site is provided with permanent sanitary accommodation (three water-closets for each sex), washbasins and mains water supply. The whole site has been asphalted to form hard standings.

14. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

As in previous years Moore's swabs were kept in the high and low level sewers in manholes near the sewage disposal works. Early in the year positive results began to be reported on a number of swabs. In an attempt to trace the source of infection, an extensive investigation of the sewers was carried out from March until October, when owing to the pressure of other duties, the investigation was abandoned. During the year, one hundred and fifty-four swabs were submitted for examination, and forty-eight of these gave positive results.

Six samples from the River Frome were taken, five from a point frequently used by bathers. All the samples indicated that the river was heavily polluted and at the August Council Meeting the Chairman of the Health Committee made a statement to the public advising them not to bathe in the river in view of the risks involved.

Samples of the Children's Paddling Pool in the Borough Gardens were taken during the summer holiday period. Two samples were reported on adversely, but on a different occasion a satisfactory result was obtained after chlorination.

Terminal disinfection was carried out at two premises.

FACTORIES ON THE COUNCIL'S REGISTER AND DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	2	-	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	85	7	-	-
(111) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding outworkers' premises)	5	-	-	-
	110	9	-	-

FACTORIES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	2	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	2	-

15. VERMINOUS PREMISES.

During the year sixteen premises were disinfested, £32.7.6. being recovered from the persons administering the properties concerned. The work was carried out to destroy the following pests:-

Cockroaches	9 premises
Fleas	5 premises
Flies	1 premises
Wasps	1 premises

16. RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's rodent control service was continued on the lines of the scheme approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. No charge is made for the destruction by the Council of rats and mice, except in the case of business premises. The work carried out during the year is shown in the table below:-

	Local Authority Premises	Dwelling Houses inc. L.A. Houses	All other Premises inc. Trade Premises	Agri- culture	Total
Total Number of Properties	17	3,424	790	24	4,255
Number of Properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	3	36	19	1	59
(b) Survey	2	19	5	-	26
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited for some other purpose)	7	60	9	-	76
Number of Properties inspected found to be infested by					
(a) Rats	3	33	15	1	52
(b) Mice	1	6	6	-	13
Number of Infested Properties treated by the L.A.	4	39	21	1	65

In March a maintenance treatment of twenty-four manholes was carried out, at thirteen of which rat infestations were found. In September test baiting of sewers was undertaken at thirty-seven manholes, the bait being consumed by rats at eleven manholes. A maintenance treatment of thirty-four manholes was therefore undertaken and twenty-four manholes were found to be infested.

17. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Under the above Act five premises in which upholstery is undertaken are registered by the Council. Premises within the Borough are not used for the manufacture or storage of rag flock. No visits of inspection or sampling under this Act were made during the year.

18. DEALERS IN OLD METALS.

Six dealers in old metals are registered by the Council under the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. No visits of inspection were made during the year by your public health inspectors.

19. PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

At the beginning of the year fifty-six licences were renewed in respect of existing petroleum installations.

Five visits were made during the year to licensed installations, and an investigation was made into a suspected leak of petroleum spirit into the sewers.

Seventeen visits were made to new or proposed installations, four new tanks being subjected to air pressure test before being put into service. One new installation was licensed during the year and two existing installations were amended to provide additional storage capacity.

20. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Two premises were licensed by the Council under the above Act for the sale of pet animals. Neither premises was visited during the year.

